

Attorney Docket No.C044

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Gerald G. Leffers, Jr.  
Group : 1636  
Applicants : Francis P. Tally et al.  
Application No. : 09/227,687  
Filed : January 8, 1999  
For : METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING VALIDATED TARGET  
AND ASSAY COMBINATIONS FOR DRUG  
DEVELOPMENT

Box AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO C.F.R. § 1.116**

In response to the Office Action mailed February 25, 2003 (Paper No. 27) Applicants submit this Amendment pursuant to 37 CFR §1.116. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment because: 1) the amendments herein comply with the requirements set forth in Paper No. 27 or, alternatively, 2) the amendments herein present the previously rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

Applicants have filed concurrently herewith a Petition for a three-month extension of time for replying to the Office Action and have paid the required fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 (a) and 1.17 (a)(2). With the extension, the time for replying is extended up to and including August 25, 2003. Accordingly, the present submission is timely.

Kindly amend the application as follows: